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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence  
Deputy Director for Plans  
Deputy Director for Science and Technology  
Deputy Director for Support  
Director of National Estimates  
General Counsel  
Legislative Counsel  
Inspector General

SUBJECT : Agency Participation in the National Inter-  
departmental Seminar

REFERENCE : Memo to Deputy Directors from Executive  
Director-Comptroller (DD/S 69-5451)  
Dated 15 December 1969, Same Subject

1. I have discussed with the Director the problem of continued Agency participation in the National Interdepartmental Seminar (NIS). Pending completion of a high-level inter-agency review of the role and mission of the NIS and the degree of support participating agencies should provide, the Director desires that Agency participation and support be maintained at respectable levels.

2. The Director feels that attendance should be mandatory and that appropriate representation gives CIA an important opportunity to dispel misconceptions about Agency functions and objectives. This point perhaps has been best expressed by a senior Agency officer who wrote, after completing a recent session of the Seminar:

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"I found the NIS an extremely stimulating and useful educational experience. Perhaps the most useful function of the seminar was in acquainting the members with the outlook and attitude of bright and articulate officers from the other government agencies and the military. In this regard, I feel it is most unfortunate that the Agency is so underrepresented. . . One valuable outgrowth of wider Agency participation would be to help disabuse some of the stereotypes of what CIA officers are like . . . and the contributions of CIA. The senior men at the seminar are going off to function on country teams; we need their cooperation and if, through . . . contact with CIA officers [they] can gain an appreciation of the caliber of CIA officers and some of the problems with their work, this could go a long way in enhancing the Agency's ability to perform its mission overseas. . . I would strongly recommend increased participation of Clandestine Service officers who are to serve in underdeveloped countries. . . The course would be particularly useful for first tour chiefs of station. . . Intelligence analysts dealing with countries can also benefit significantly. I should think, for example, that OER analysts would find the course extremely stimulating with its focus on the complex economic difficulties of underdeveloped countries. . . The course exposed me to areas with which I was not previously familiar, and re-emphasized the importance of cultural differences and thorough familiarity with the cultural mores of the areas in question. The foreign policy considerations were extremely useful and helped put the Agency's work in a useful perspective. . . ."

3. I request that you review past efforts made in support of the NIS and take the necessary action to ensure the selection of several well-qualified senior officers to represent the Agency at future sessions of the Seminar. Until further notice, I ask that the following minimum quotas for each Directorate be met or surpassed: DD/P - 3, DD/I - 1, DD/S - 1. As appropriate, three candidates at-large should be nominated from among the Independent Offices and the Directorate of Science and Technology. I want to make certain that a minimum of five officers are enrolled in each running of the Seminar and would hope to meet our full quota of eight as often as possible. More than eight students can be accommodated as the occasion arises.

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4. I request that nominations be sent to the Office of Training by 1 January for each of the first three sessions of 1971 beginning 11 January (#53), 1 March (#54), and 3 May (#55). Nominations should also be submitted to OTR by 1 June for the three remaining sessions of 1971 beginning 12 July (#56), 13 September (#57), and 1 November (#58), respectively. Additionally, alternate candidates should be identified for each principal nominee and their names sent to OTR with the name of the principal candidate.

L. K. White  
Executive Director-Comptroller

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ORIGINATOR:

  
Hugh T. Cunningham  
Director of Training

3 Dec 70  
Date

CONCUR:

R. L. Bannerman  
Deputy Director  
for Support

                      
Date

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